Here is your 133rd Midland Unitarian Association Bits & Pieces for August 2019. If you want any news from your congregation included here, please send it to me (details below)

## MUA AUTUMN TRAINING DAY Beyond the Hymn Sandwich Led by Christina Smith (Derby Unity)

**When:** Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November

Where: Unitarian New Meeting, Ryland St, Birmingham B16 8BL

Times: 10.00 am – 4.15 pm (refreshments & networking from 9.30 am)

**Cost:** FREE to members of MUA congregations; £10 to others.

A flyer has been distributed with this newsletter. Please send your bookings to me (details at bottom of newsletter)

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## NATIONAL CHURCHES TRUST

"The National Churches Trust supports the churches of the UK in many ways. One of our key priorities is to make it easy for churches to carry out regular maintenance, thereby avoiding the need for expensive repairs.

That's why, last year, we launched our <u>MaintenanceBooker</u> website, which allows churches to book a wide variety of maintenance tasks online.

We have now added a range of new maintenance services to the website. These include high level surveys and maintenance, masonry maintenance and lime mortar repointing. Of course, maintenance does cost money, which is why we also have in place a range of grants to help churches pay for work booked through MaintenanceBooker.

The new services on MaintenanceBooker are being made possible with the support of Ecclesiastical Insurance, the UK's leading church insurer, the Pilgrim Trust and the Church in Wales.

## Foundation Grants update

For a limited time only, we will accept applications for work of **up to £20,000** (excluding VAT) for our Foundation Grants programme, which can offer up to **50% of project costs**, not exceeding £10,000. Our Foundation Grants are for urgent maintenance works and small repairs identified as high priority, as well as small investigative works and surveys. More details

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## **MUA SKILLS AUDIT**

So far I have had no responses to my plea for skills you might be able to share with other congregations. Please share this information widely, and ask yourselves whether you are willing to help congregations in need.

If you have any contributions for the next *Bits & Pieces*, please send them to me at 5, Martins Road, Piddington, Northampton NN7 2DN or via e-mail to <u>revsuewoollev@gmail.com</u> Thanks you!